

Amendment to the Abstract:

Please add an abstract as follows:

Abstract

--A tip is provided for use with a surgical stapler or instrument. In one embodiment, the tip is secured to the end effector of the surgical instrument, e.g., to the anvil assembly or cartridge assembly. The tip extends distally from the end effector and is configured to dissect or separate target tissue from certain tissue, e.g., adherent, connective, joined or other tissue, or to facilitate passage of the end effector past tissue. --